



# IRVINGTON

## Village News

<http://village.irvington.ny.us>  
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*Summer 2002*

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### Dear Neighbors:

In recent months your Board of Trustees has been receiving more and more expressions of concern regarding traffic conditions, speeding and pedestrian safety. Maybe it has something to do with busy people rushing through busy lives, it probably has something to do with increased car population in our area, maybe it has something to do with impatience and similar such attitudes that give vent to road rage and the like. I don't know what the exact reasons are, but I do know that the phenomena appears to be effecting the quality of life of many of our residents, and that it is time to do something. (Ironically the offenders creating these conditions are mainly our own fellow residents). To deal with the situation I have ordered two actions. The first is a directive to our Police Department to immediately implement increased surveillance and stepped-up get-tough enforcement in rotating targeted areas throughout the Village. Secondly, I have directed Village staff to take on a top priority effort to develop a report to the Board of Trustees a proposed "Traffic Calming and Pedestrian Safety Initiative". In this instance we will look to identify a range of options to calm traffic and provide greater vehicular and pedestrian safety, including, but not limited to: appropriate new signage, a public awareness program, the afore-reference increased surveillance and enforcement, targeted road blocks, additional and more effective pedestrian crosswalks, and possibly additional sidewalks where practical. We will also address certain traffic condition improvements emerging from the comprehensive plan prepared by the Land Use Committee which is now before the Village Board and which will be the subject of informational meetings and a public hearing this fall. Dealing with this difficult concern, as our Village and the school district grow and become more complex, will remain a top priority of your Board of Trustees.

In cooperation with the Town of Greenburgh, your Village Board has recently launched programs addressed at mainstreaming disabled residents. Each of our neighboring villages has joined with the Town of Greenburgh in the development of recreation programs targeted to disabled people. Additionally, the Greenburgh Town Board has authorized families who reside within Irvington, Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford and Tarrytown the opportunity to use the Greenburgh Town Pool if they have disabled children. If you have a disabled family member and are interested in participating in any of these programs, contact the Irvington Recreation Department at 591-7736.

I expect you've noticed some recent television broadcasts on local public access channel 73, presented by the Village, including the throwing out of the first ball at the first baseball game at Scenic Hudson Park, and the D.A.R.E. Graduation. Within the context of our overall goal of implementing an enhanced public information and communications program we are taking our first steps beyond the cable T.V. alphanumeric bulletin board we have been running the past few years. We anticipate increasing the number of broadcasts throughout the course of this year. We are in an experimental, trial and error phase as T.V. producers, so bear with us as we move forward into this new territory. We look forward with you to enjoying what will be an informative and important means of communication within the Village. Have a great summer.

Dennis P. Flood, Mayor



*Mayor Dennis Flood with Fire Chief Anthony Tarricone  
in Irvington's New Fire Boat*

### *In This Issue:*

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- Halsey Pond Volunteers Needed
- DPW News
- Library News
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- July 4th Celebration
- Open Air Program
- Senior Citizens Picnic

## Village acquires 131 Main Street

### New Home for the Irvington Historical Society

The Village recently completed a long-running transaction with Consolidated Edison Company of New York to acquire the property and house located at 131 Main Street. The house is the second oldest on Main Street and dates back to the mid-1800's.

The house was built around 1857 and was part of the chapel school activities of the Church of Saint Barnabas. There were various owners of the house over the years leading up to the 1950's. The property, located on the north side of Main Street behind the gas station at the top of Main Street, was acquired by Con Edison in the 1950s for the purpose of locating a power substation in the rear portion of the property while maintaining the house as a rental property to provide screening for the substation. For many years, the house was rented and occupied by Dr. Mario Dolan for use as a professional office. More recently, until the early 1990's, the house was rented by various individuals. After the house became vacant in the early 1990's, the house fell into disrepair.

In 1998, the Village and Con Edison began negotiating for the sale or lease of the property with the purpose of preserving the historic house and making it the home for the Irvington Historical Society. After many months (or years) of negotiation, the property was subdivided to separate the house from the still-active power substation. On Tuesday, May 21, 2002, the Village acquired the parcel containing the house.

In the coming weeks, it is expected that the Village will undertake some environmental testing and remove an underground oil tank. The property will then be transferred to the Irvington Historical Society for restoration and preservation. The Society hopes to create a history center, a small museum with educational resources and activities for all generations, and a headquarters for their growing organization.

The house is in need of a large amount of attention in order to properly restore and preserve it. The members of the Irvington Historical Society will undertake this project through volunteer work and direct support from the community. If you are interested in helping the Irvington Historical Society, contact Betsy Wilson at 591-2564 or bgwilson24@msn.com.

## Halsey Pond

Last November, the Village Board approved a contract with Creative Habitat Corporation as a consultant for the future management of Halsey Pond.

Creative Habitat Corporation has worked with the Westchester County Planning Department and comes to Irvington highly recommended. Sven Hoeger, President, has made several visits to the site, conducted preliminary tests, and will develop a management plan based on sound ecological principles rather than crisis management with chemicals. The plan will be developed over time as information is collected about the pond. Simultaneously, stopgap measures to deal with emergencies as they arise will be proposed. The management plan will address water quality issues, waterfowl, fish and invertebrate management, submerged, floating leaf and emergent vegetation.

If you have walked around the pond recently, you will notice test plantings in various areas of the pond that are bordered with temporary fencing. The plantings will be monitored to help determine the relative health of the pond. Water quality sampling and analysis has also commenced. A final report will be presented this fall and long-term management recommendations are expected in 2003.

Early results of water analysis tests have shown a clear gradient of phosphorus in the pond. Phosphorus is a major nutrient and is typically responsible for problematic plant and algae blooms. Further studies are necessary before future preventive measures are recommended, however, the algae are getting to be so prominent that they pose a threat of oxygen deficiency that can result in fish kills toward the middle of the summer.

As an immediate preventative measure, the Village is planning a volunteer effort to harvest the algae. **On Saturday, July 13th, beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, interested residents are invited to help remove the algae from Halsey Pond. Our consultant, Sven Hoeger, will coordinate this effort. The work will involve netting the algae and dragging them on land, and rescuing any fish or turtles that might get caught in the nets. Some volunteers will be needed to wade in the shallow area of the pond along its edge. Anyone with chest waders is encouraged to bring them. Others should come in old sneakers and shorts that they don't mind getting muddy. Other than this there is not much else to bring other than a good mood and enthusiasm!

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Sponsored by

**SUNNYSIDE FEDERAL and THE VILLAGE OF IRVINGTON**

*Featuring a Spectuacular Fireworks Display  
Thursday, July 4, 2002 - In Matthiessen Park*

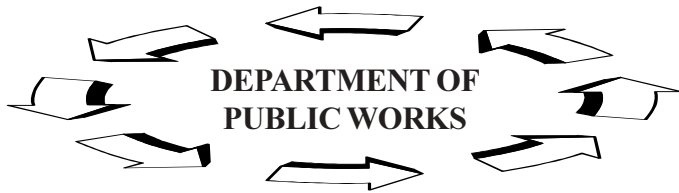
The fun begins with Live Bands On Stage

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Evolution, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Memories, and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Transit

Other attractions include - strolling minstrels - costumed characters - crafts booth - food tent

**COME AND ENJOY THE FUN!**





The Public Works Department has had a great deal of success in providing free compost from the Village's compost to Village residents. Compost is delivered free of charge to Irvington residents. If you wish to be placed on our delivery list, please call 591-8787 and give us your address, phone number, and amount you would like delivered.

The Department of Public Works suspects that some of the brush/ clippings/ leaves that it collects from within the Village is, in fact "imported" from landscapers who work with clients in other communities. The Village of Irvington's policy of picking up brush and yard waste is more liberal than most municipalities in the area. Landscapers must pay to dispose of yard waste in many communities. Therefore, in order to avoid these costs, they pack up the yard waste from another town and dump it off in Irvington while they are servicing their clients in this community. Irvington is basically, picking up the tab for other communities recycling programs. This is unfair to the taxpayers of Irvington. If you have knowledge of this type of incident, please call 591-6044. If you suspect that your landscaper is "importing" yard waste to Irvington, tell them to stop.

The Village does not accept construction debris that is generated by private contractors. If you are employing private contractors to renovate your house, the contractor is responsible for debris removal.

Despite the generous amounts of rainfall that we have been experiencing recently, the reservoirs are still not up to the levels normally experienced this time of year. In fact, Westchester County's drought emergency still remains in effect. Therefore, residents are asked to do their best to conserve water. Lawn watering restrictions still remain in effect.

### SENIOR CITIZEN PICNIC



All Village senior citizens are invited to Scenic Hudson Park on Tuesday, July 9th for a "**Senior Citizen Picnic**". From 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

There is no charge for the event, however, Seniors are asked to contact Joan Armstrong at 591-8239 to register for the event.

There will be tents, entertainment and plenty of food for all.

Join us as we celebrate summer in our beautiful park!

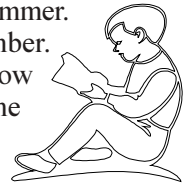
## AT THE LIBRARY

The summer reading program is in full swing. It's not too late for your child to join. Requirements are simple. Your child reads at least one book per week, comes to the Library and lists that book in a form we keep at the children's desk. There's a small prize each week. On September 5th there's a big party with entertainment, food and prizes for everyone who is a summer reader!

Story Hour in the Park has begun at the Station Road entrance to Memorial Park. It's at 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday for ages 3 and up. Penny Delany of the Irvington School Board is our guest reader.

Summer Pajama Stories begin Tuesday, July 23rd through August 13th at 7:00 p.m. at the Library. Journalists Cathy Sears will read to ages 3 and up. Come in pajamas and bring your teddy bear!

Our book clubs are not meeting over the summer. However, they will all start again in September. If you're interested in joining and want to know what we're reading for September, call the Library and ask for Agnes or Pam.



## IRVINGTON TOWN HALL THEATER

The Irvington Town Hall Theater stage may be dark, during the summer months, but the work lights are on backstage, as we plan our 2002/03 Season of events for your enjoyment. Things are still being finalized for our calendar of events that will be mailed out to all our patrons in September. If you wish to be on our direct mailing list and are not currently receiving our schedule, please call 591-6602 and leave your name (please spell), address and your category of interest: music, theater, children or any combination of the above.

During the summer from July 1st through August 1st, we will be having Ballet and Yoga for Teens and Adults with Claudia Jill Stoltman. In the fall we will be adding Pre-Ballet, Ballet I and II to the Teen/Adult Ballet and Yoga classes. For further information please call 478-4771 or e-mail: [bldejs@aol.com](mailto:bldejs@aol.com).

For the 100 year anniversary of the Theater, ITHT, Inc., is planning a special musical revue, in November, directed by Michael Penta. He has been directing in Irvington for 35 years of which 10 years were for our Theater. ITHT, Inc., is planning this special revue of all their past shows for their own 25th year anniversary celebration.

Irvington Children's Theater will be having a December show, which has yet to be determined. Candidates for the new Children's Theater director are on going and a decision for the show will be made very soon. So that all your little budding Thespians, waiting in the wings, won't be disappointed, I suggest you look for the details in our fall brochure.



### OPEN AIR PROGRAM

The Annual Summer "Open Air" program begins on Monday, July 1st at the Middle School outdoor area.



The program will run Monday through Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and is for Middle School and High School children.



Supervision is provided and three site supervisors oversee the activities.

For additional information on this program please contact  
Joe Archino at 591-7736.  
The Program ends on August 9, 2002



### MOVIES IN MATTHIESSEN PARK

Showtime Approximately 8:40 p.m.

Friday, July 12th - *Return To Never Never Land*

Friday, July 19th - *Monsters Inc.*

Friday, July 26th - *Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius*

Sunday, August 4th - *The Rookie*

**NOTE:** Sunday August 4th is a Special Doubleheader  
Featuring a movie - *"The Rookie"*

Followed by music with the  
*"Lois Colombo Band"*



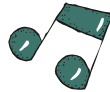
### CONCERTS IN MATTHIESSEN PARK

All Shows Are 6:30 -to- 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 13th - *Blues Roadhouse Orchestra*  
All star blues & classic rock

Saturday, July 20th - *Ray Chesna and Friends*  
Folk rock, country, blues and more

Sunday, August 4th - *The Lois Colombo Band*  
Popular tunes and easy listening favorites



**NOTE:** Sunday August 4th is a Special Doubleheader Featuring a  
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Followed by music with the  
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#### IrvingtonVillage News

Our thanks to all those who have contributed to this publication  
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